

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
District of Oregon**



PRESS ROOM

October 9, 2008

Corporate Defendant is Sentenced in Environmental Crime Case

Lenar Equipment, Inc, an Oregon company, pled guilty and was sentenced for importing tractors that did not comply with the Clean Air Act

Portland, Ore. – Lenar Equipment, Inc., an Oregon Corporation, entered a guilty plea on October 9, 2008, in federal court before U.S. District Court Judge Ancer L. Haggerty to unlawfully importing tractors that did not comply with the Clean Air Act.

In entering the guilty plea, an officer of the company admitted that on or about March 22, 2005, in the District of Oregon, Lenar Equipment, Inc., acting through its agents and employees, who were acting within the scope of their employment, knowingly imported ten tractors from China that were in violation of the Clean Air Act's Transition Program for Equipment Manufactures (TPEM). TPEM regulates the manufacture and importation of equipment containing engines that do not comply with the Clean Air Act's current emissions standards. This is the first known criminal prosecution in the nation of a company for violating TPEM.

After accepting the plea, the Court sentenced the company to three years probation, imposed a \$10,000 fine, and ordered the company to pay an additional \$10,000 to the Oregon Governor's Fund for the Environment, a sustained granting fund managed by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation designed to benefit the environment within the District of Oregon. The tractors will also be forfeited.

This case was investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott Kerin.